



◆ YEAR OF THE VILLAIN ◆ EVIL UNLEASHED ◆



15

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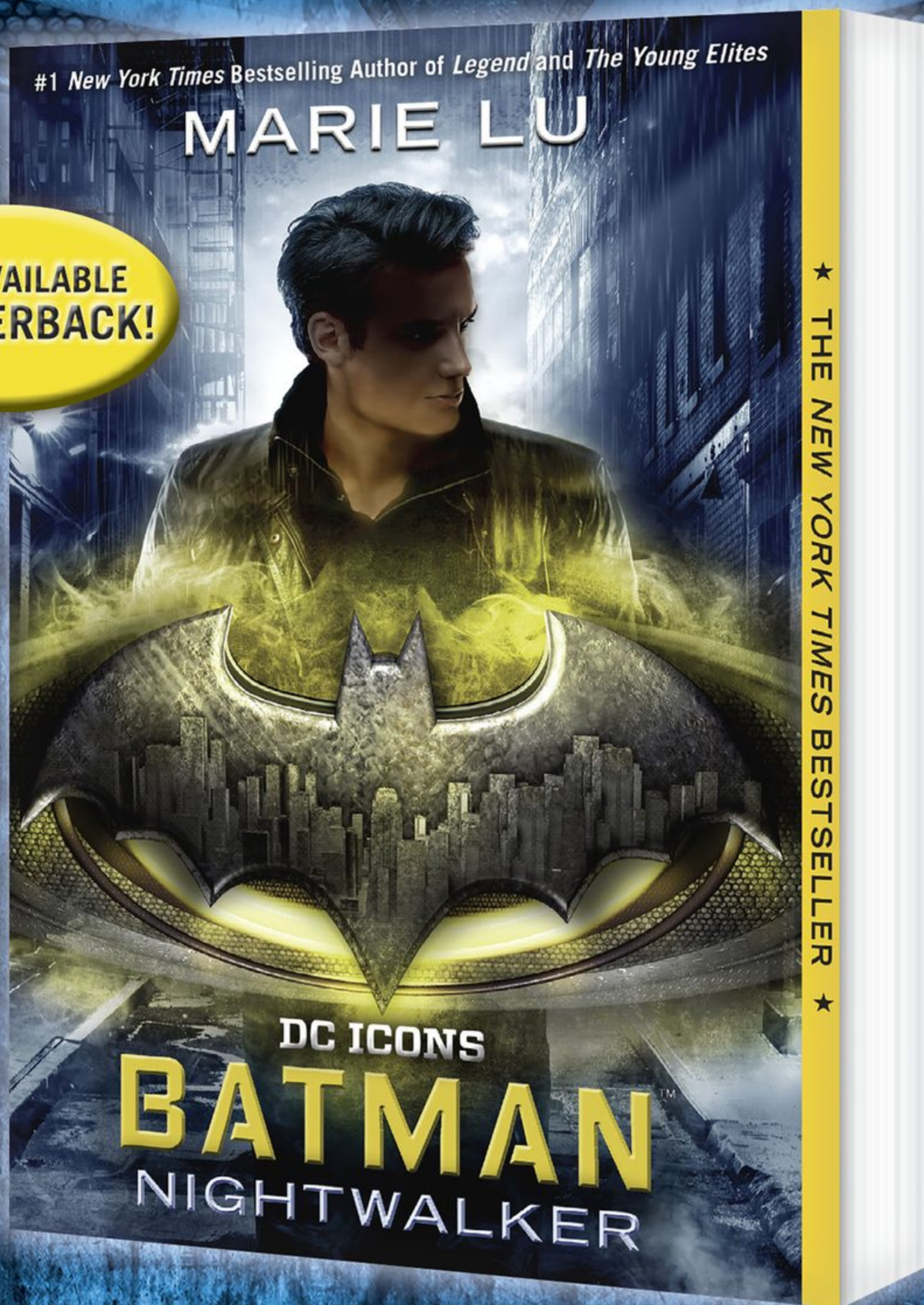
THIS IS
DEFINITELY
WHAT IT LOOKS
LIKE.

V
ANDOLFO
PRIANTO

CATWOMAN™

From #1 *New York Times*
bestselling author **MARIE LU**

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IN PAPERBACK!



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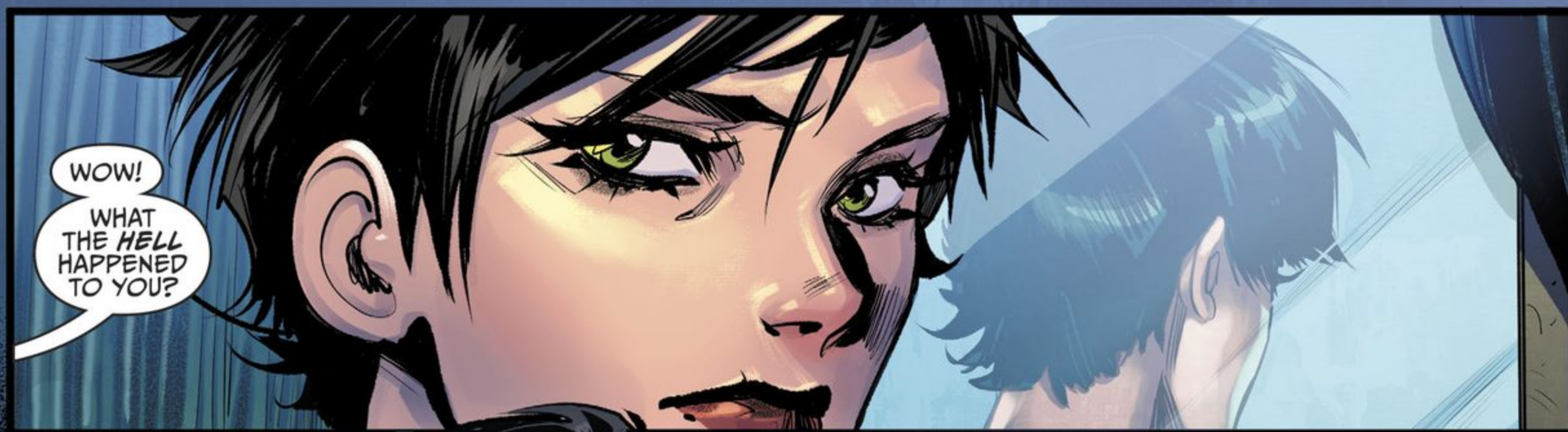


OWW!

Sermesa **HEAT**

PART TWO
RAM V story
ARIF PRIANTO colors
JOËLLE JONES & LAURA ALLRED main cover
HARVEY RICHARDS associate editor

MIRKA ANDOLFO art
SAIDA TEMOFONTE lettering
STANLEY "ARTGERM" LAU variant cover
JAMIE S. RICH editor



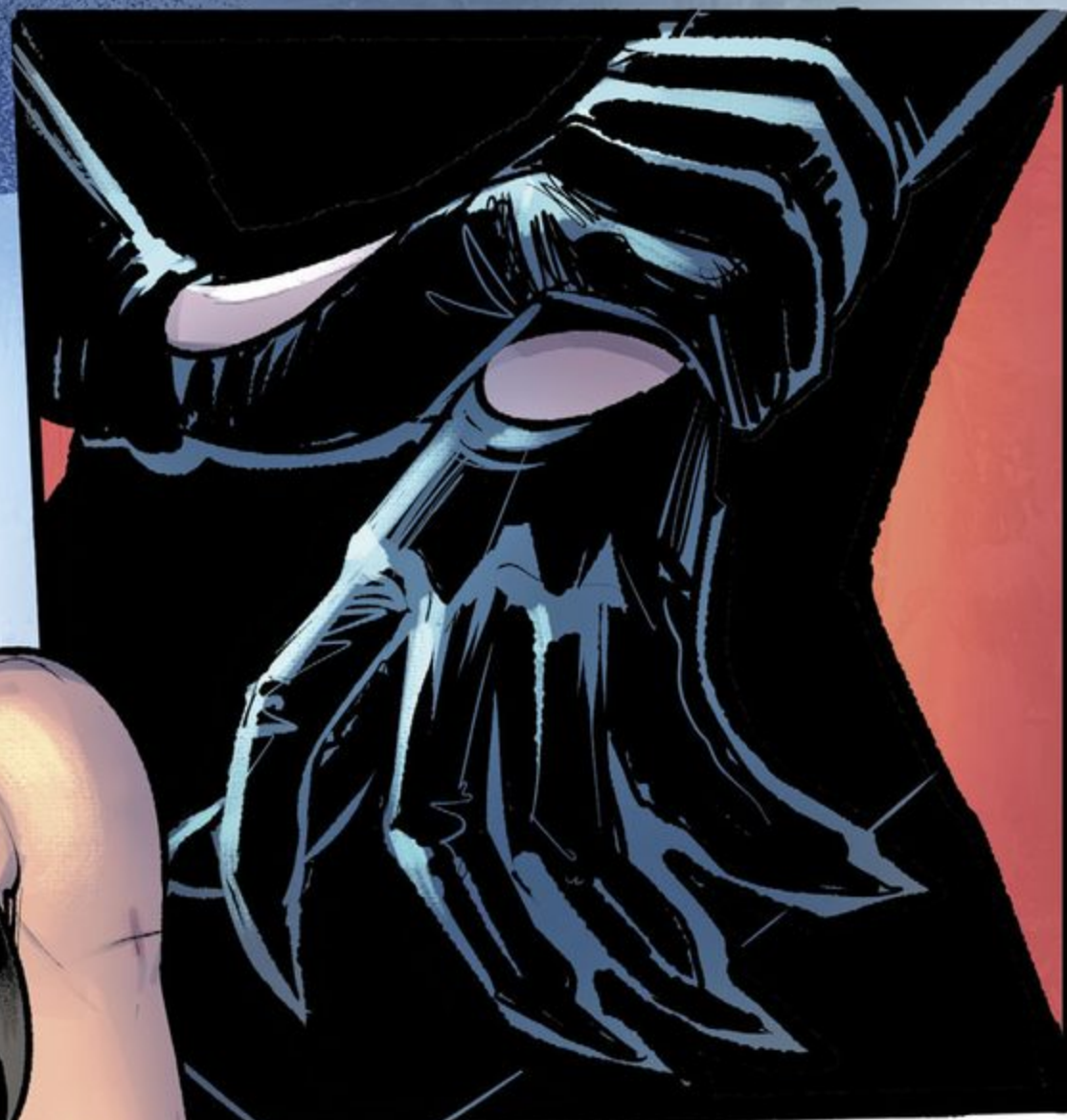
WOW!

WHAT
THE HELL
HAPPENED
TO YOU?

≡SIGH≡
I'VE GOT LEX
LUTHOR WANTING TO
OFFER ME THINGS,
AND EVERYONE
IS TRYING TO
MURDER ME.*

AHH YEAH,
I HEAR YA...
MONDAYS,
HUH?

WELL,
WHAT'RE YOU
GOING TO
DO ABOUT
IT?



I SUPPOSE...

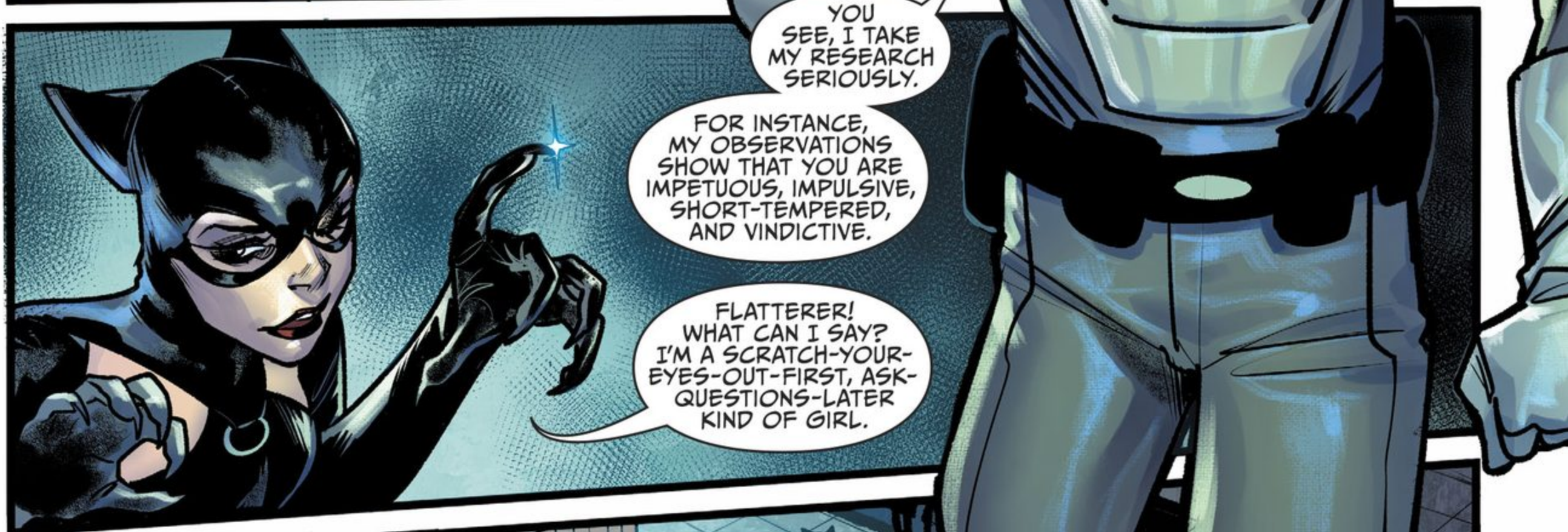
*SEE CATWOMAN #13! - JSR

"...WHATEVER A
CAT DOES BEST
WHEN SHE'S
CORNERED."



AH, I
EXPECTED
YOU'D BE HERE
A LOT SOONER,
MS. KYLE.

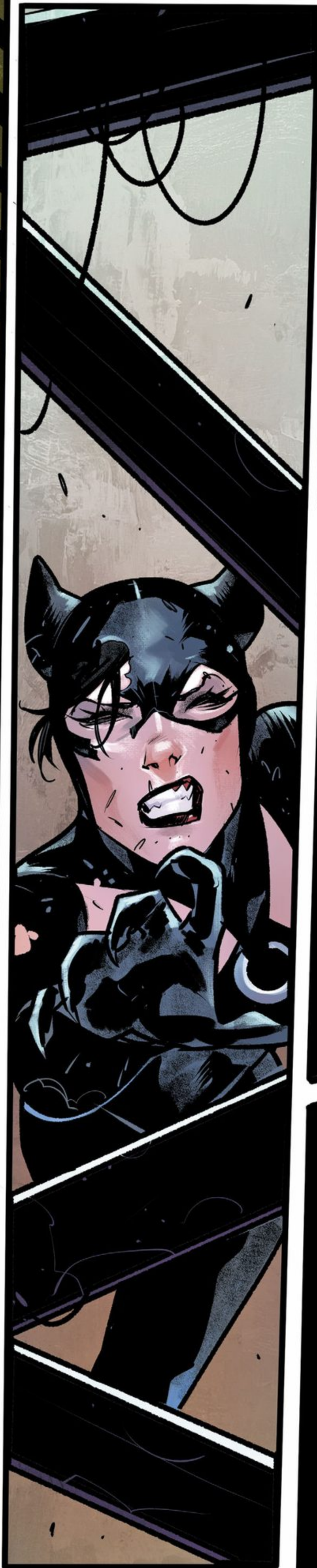


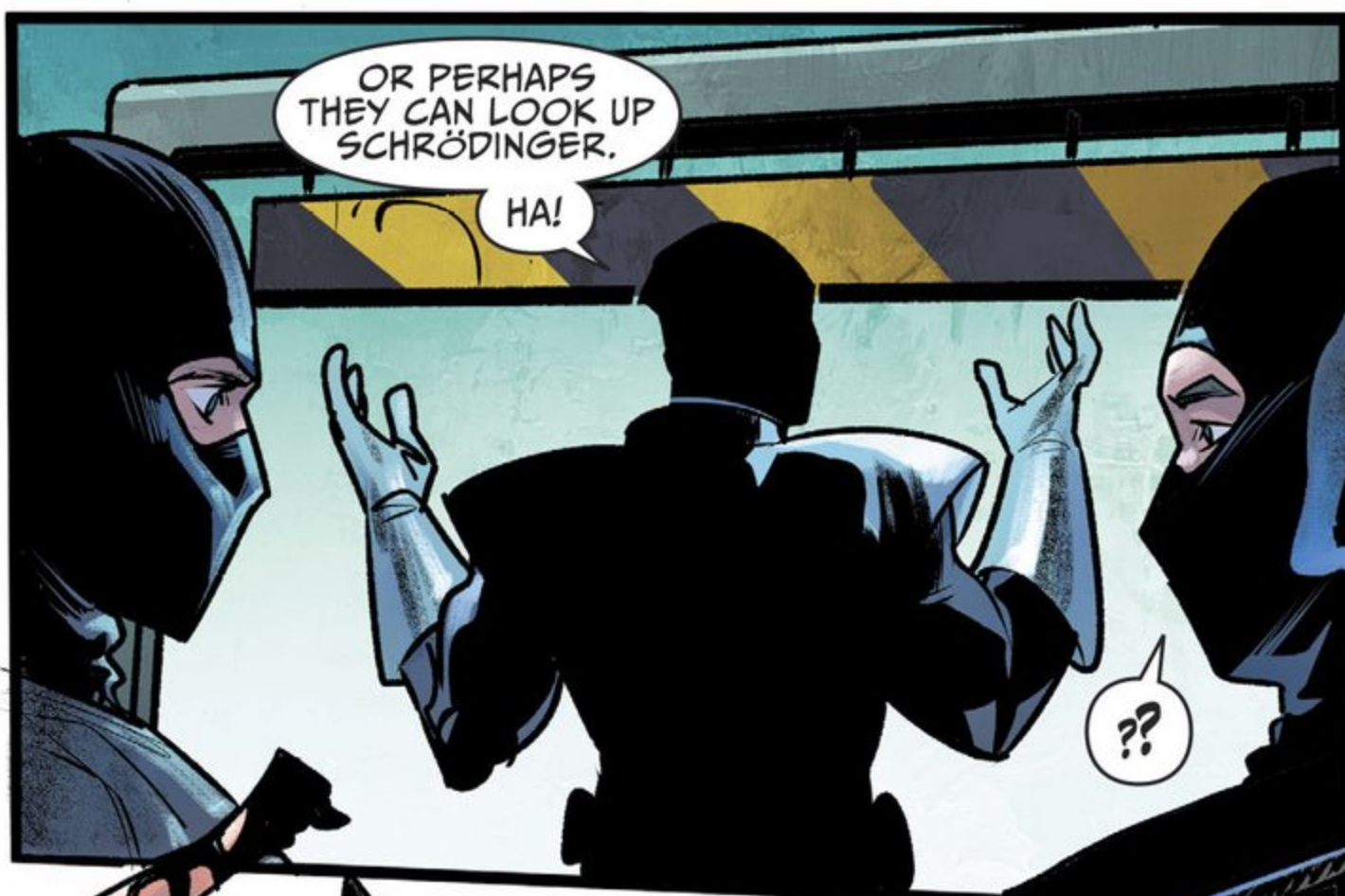


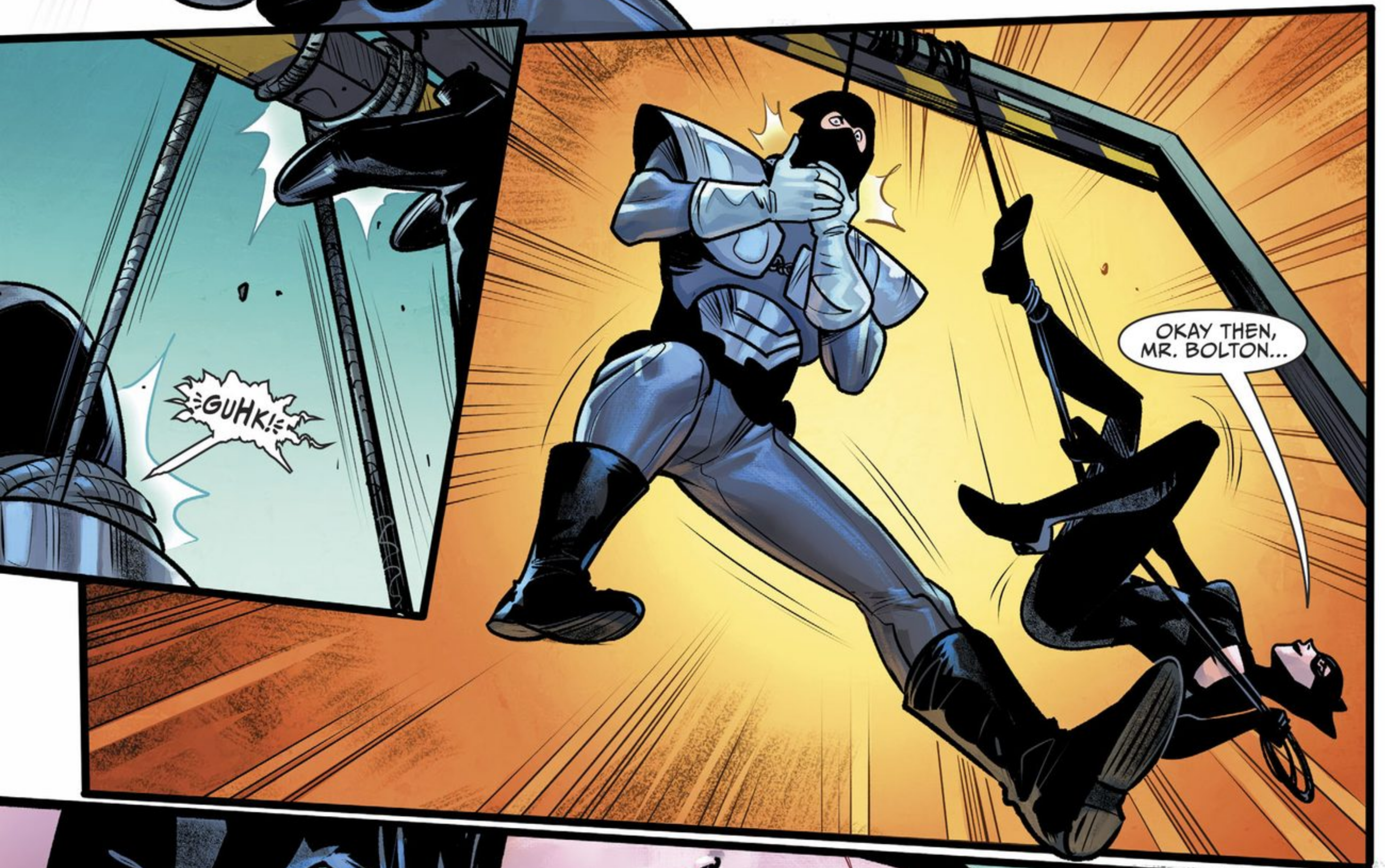












...LET'S HAVE A
TALK ABOUT YOUR
EMPLOYERS.

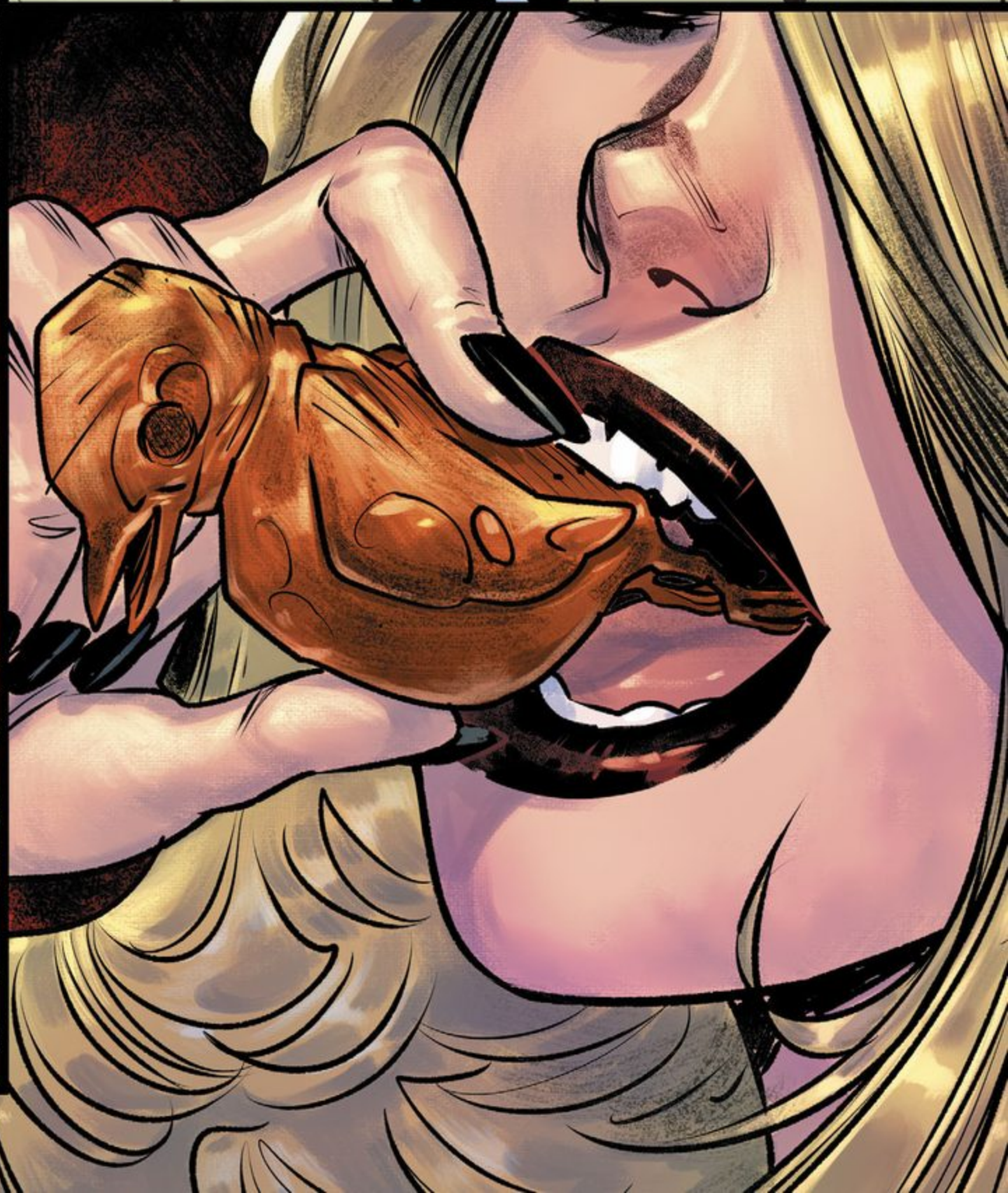
The Emperor's Jewel,
Villa Hermosa.

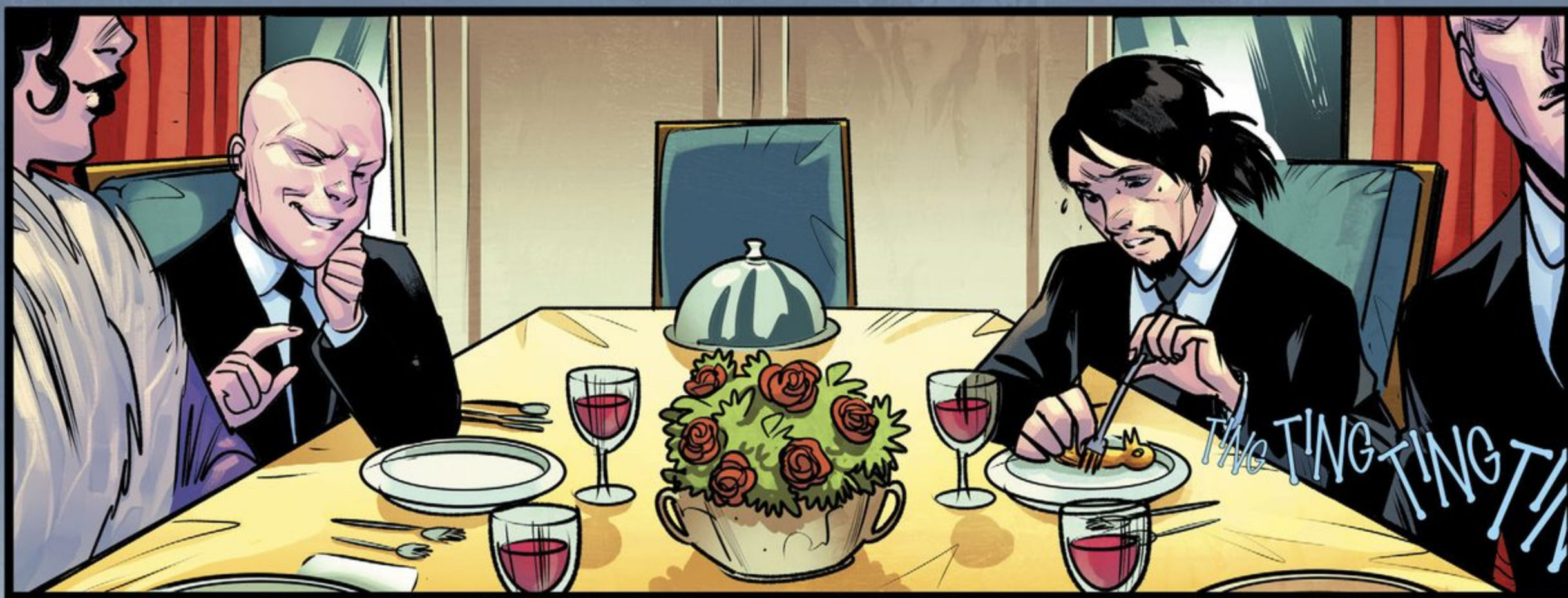


AND OUR
NEXT COURSE,
LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN...

...WHOLE
ROASTED ORTOLAN
SONGBIRD, MARINATED
IN ARMAGNAC AND
SERVED WITH AN
EXQUISITELY DELICATE
FIG JUS.

MERCI.





TING
TING
TING
TING

LADIES
AND GENTLEMEN,
I AM SO HAPPY
THAT YOU COULD ALL
COME TOGETHER,
AT MY INVITATION,
TO SAVOR THIS
MOMENT.

THE ORTOLAN
SONGBIRD IS A RARE
SPECIES. THEIR HUNTING IS
FORBIDDEN AND, AS SUCH,
THEIR PRICE ON THE
BLACK MARKET IS
PROHIBITIVE.

THEY ARE
MEANT TO BE EATEN
WHOLE. WINGS, BONES,
BEAKS, AND ALL. AS THE
TINY BONES PRICK THE
INSIDE OF YOUR MOUTH,
THE SALT FROM YOUR OWN
BLOOD SEASONS THE
TENDERLY COOKED
MEAT.

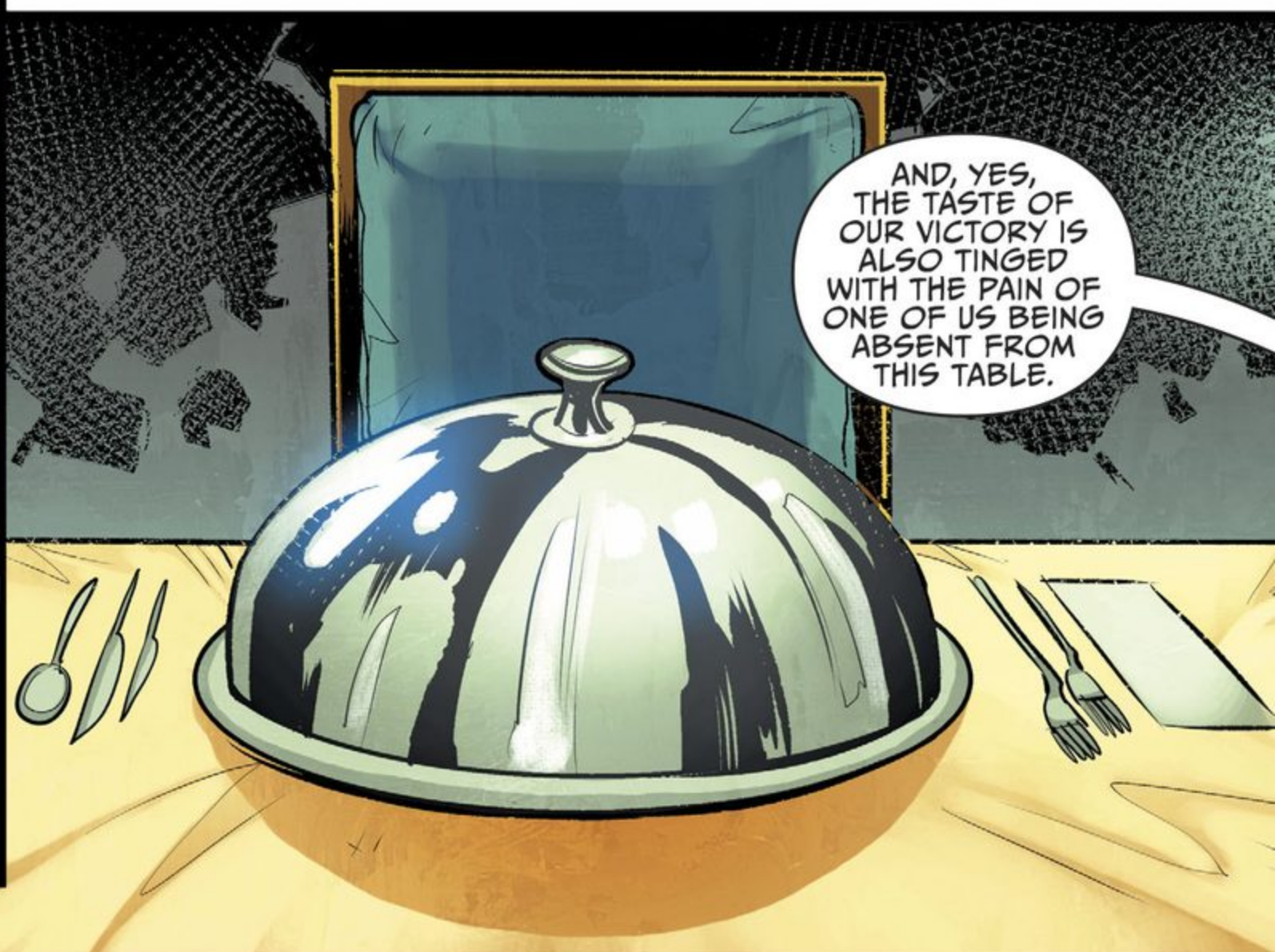
THE
PAIN ONLY
ADDING TO THE
PLEASURE.

IS THERE
A BETTER
METAPHOR FOR
WHY WE HAVE
GATHERED HERE
TONIGHT?



THE
COST OF
THIS DINNER
HAS BEEN
EXTRAVAGANT,
I KNOW.

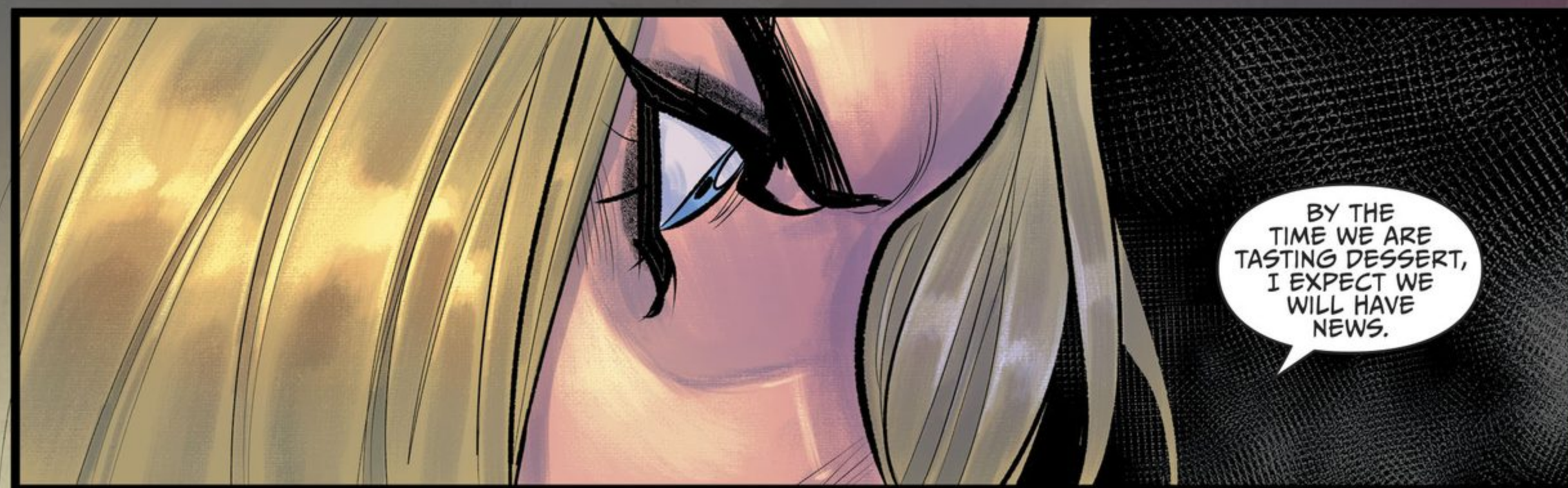
FIVE
MILLION
FOR A SEAT
AT THIS
TABLE.



AND, YES,
THE TASTE OF
OUR VICTORY IS
ALSO TINGED
WITH THE PAIN OF
ONE OF US BEING
ABSENT FROM
THIS TABLE.



RAINA CREEL
IS MISSED, BUT HER
DOWNFALL PROVED
TO BE THE CATALYST
FOR THIS NIGHT.



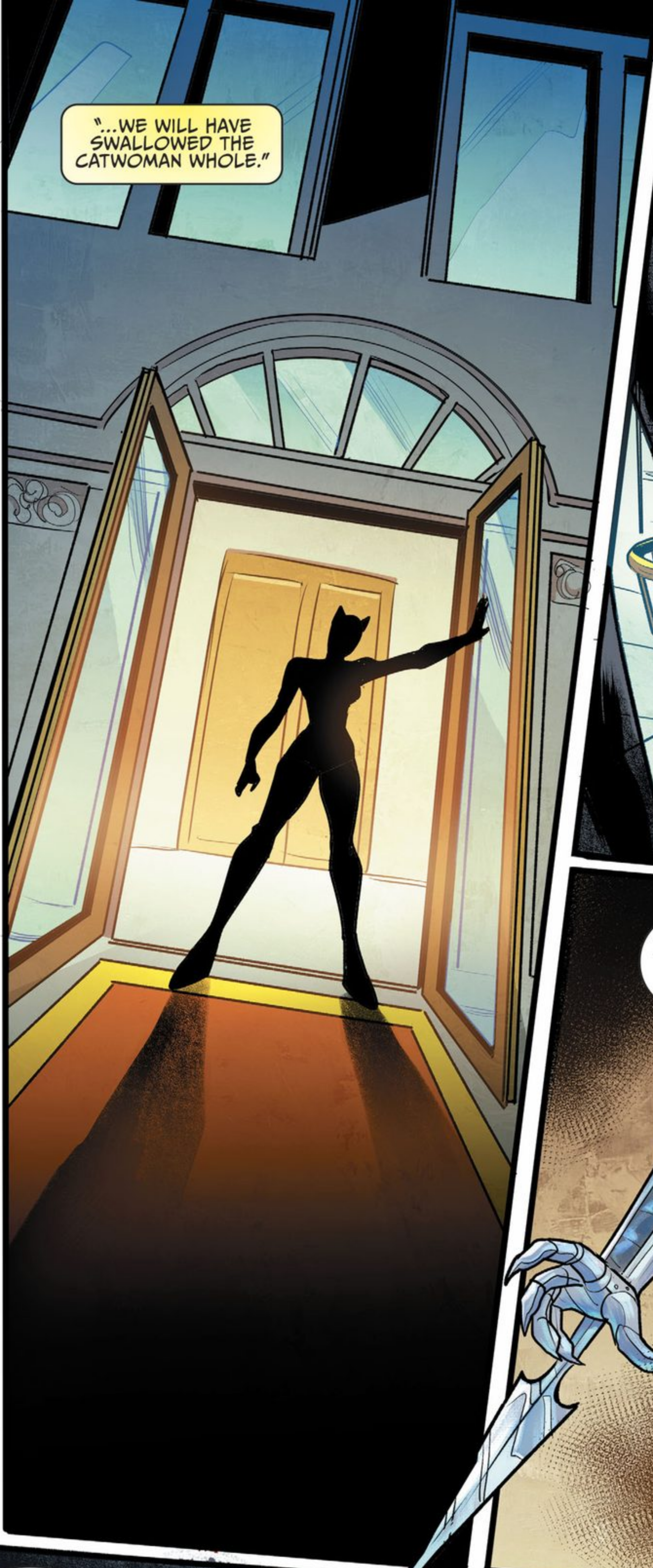
BY THE
TIME WE ARE
TASTING DESSERT,
I EXPECT WE
WILL HAVE
NEWS.



THE TWENTY-
FIVE MILLION POT
FROM THIS DINNER
HAS AFFORDED US
THE BEST ASSASSINS
AND THIEVES ONE
COULD BUY.

BEFORE
THIS NIGHT IS
OVER, I AM
SURE...

"...WE WILL HAVE
SWALLOWED THE
CATWOMAN WHOLE."



I'M AFRAID
THIS IS A PRIVATE
DINNER AND
ATTENDANCE IS BY
INVITATION ONLY,
MS. KYLE.

YOU
ARE NOT
ON THE
LIST.



AND YOU
KNOW WHAT
THEY SAY ABOUT
THESE SORTS
OF DINNERS.

IF
YOU ARE NOT
AT THE TABLE,
THEN YOU'RE
PROBABLY ON
THE MENU.



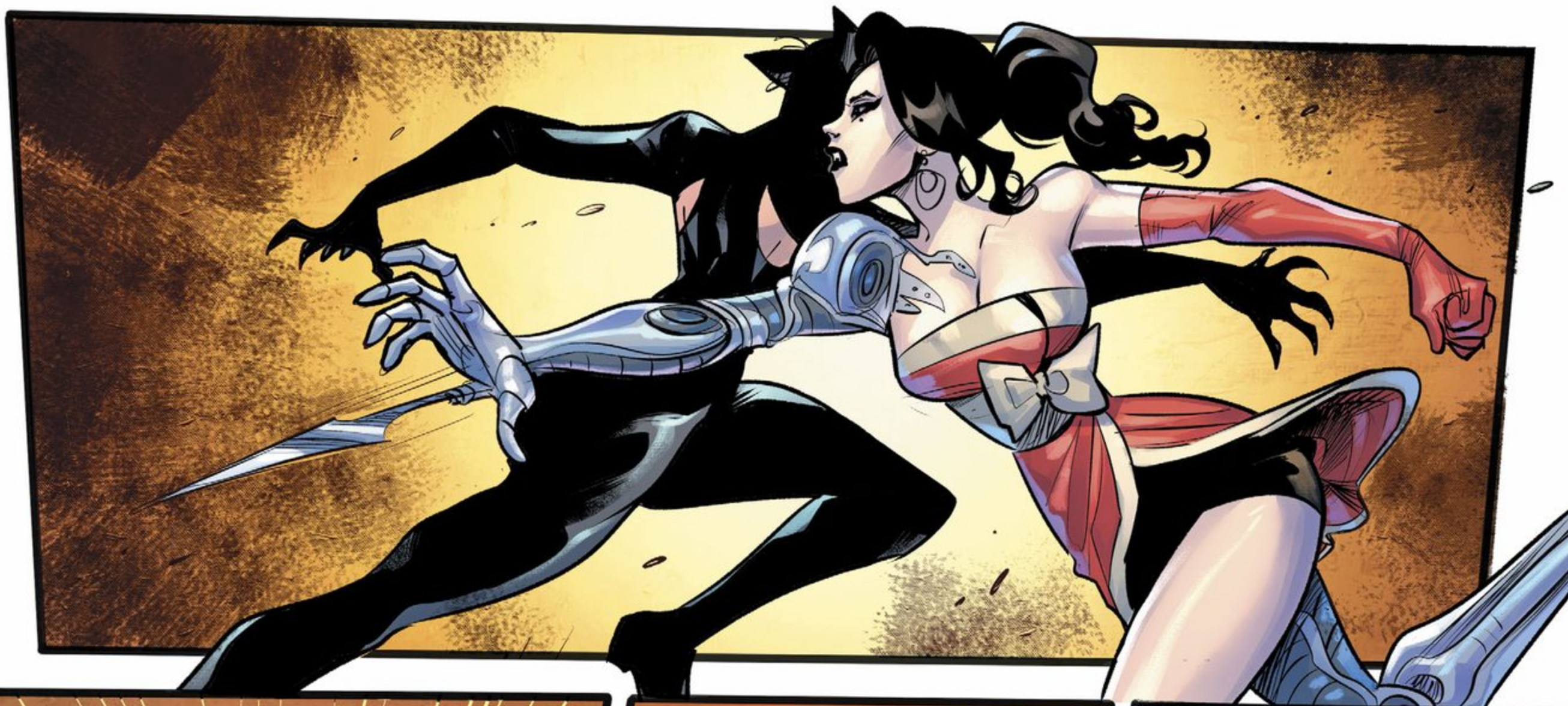
FFH...

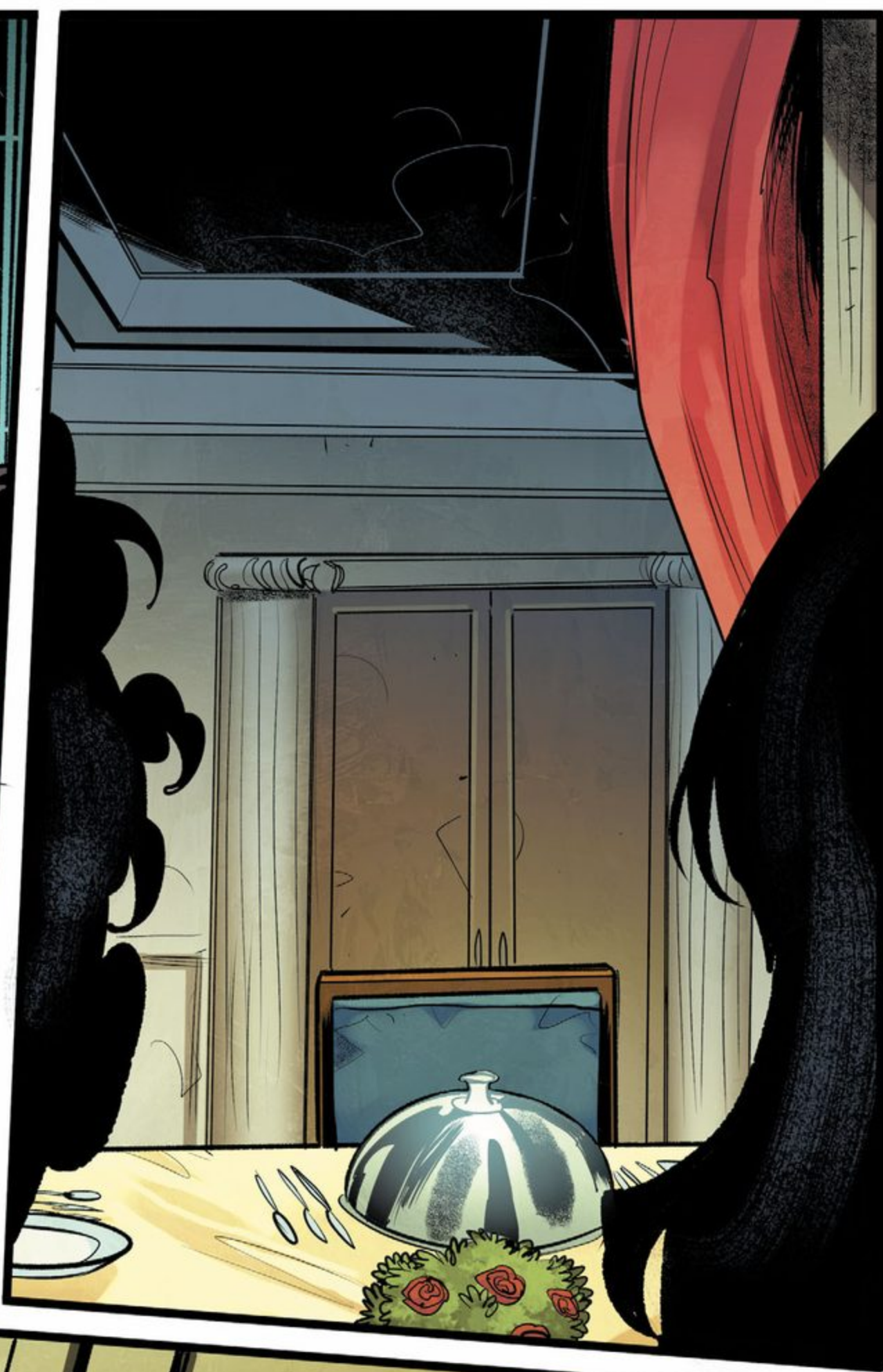
...I'VE BEEN
BEATEN UP, SHOT,
DROWNED, TRAPPED
IN A BOX, AND
BLOWN UP SO
FAR.

I'VE
GOT NO WITTY
COMEBACKS
LEFT.

LET'S
GO.









LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

YOU HAVE EATEN WELL.

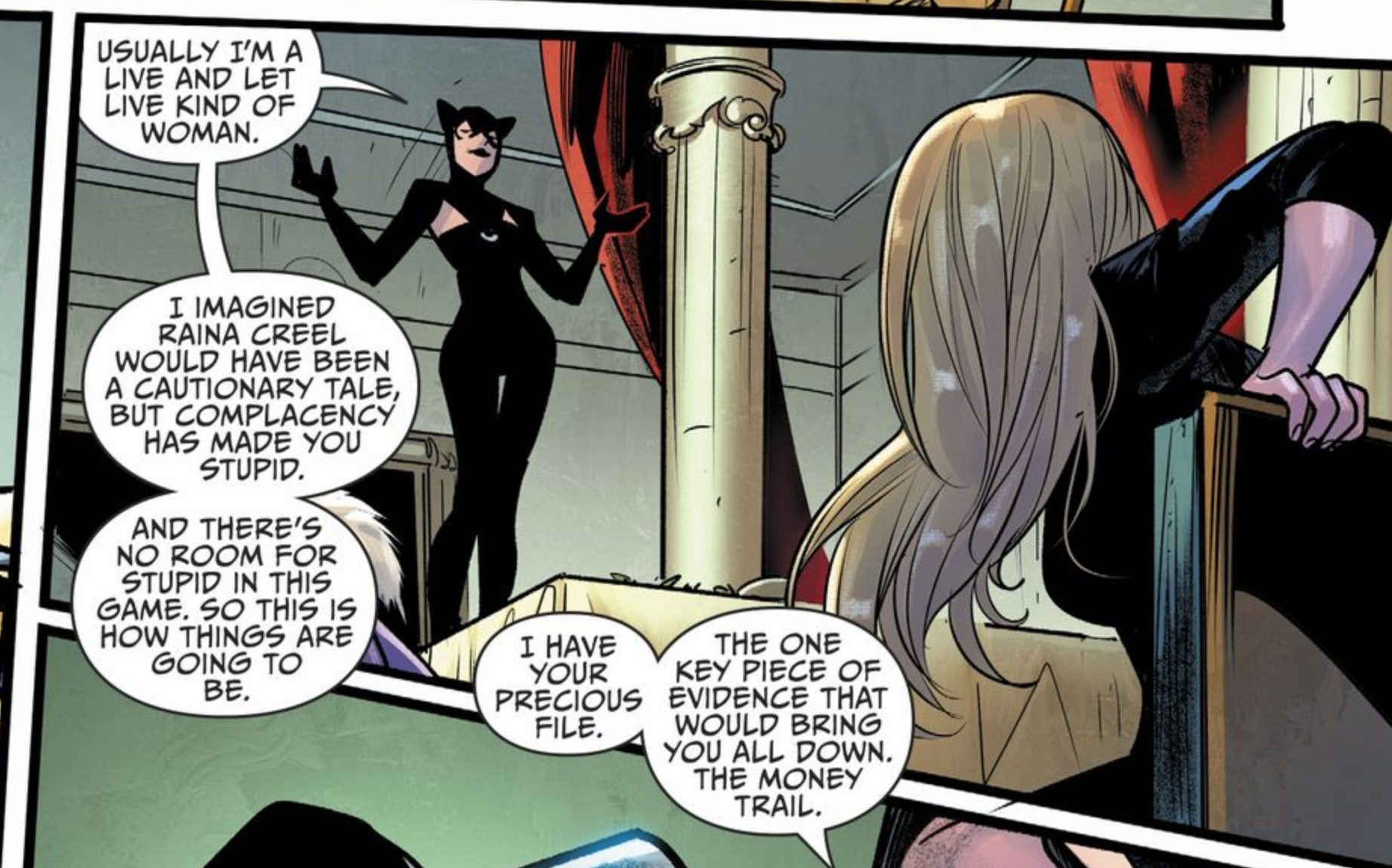
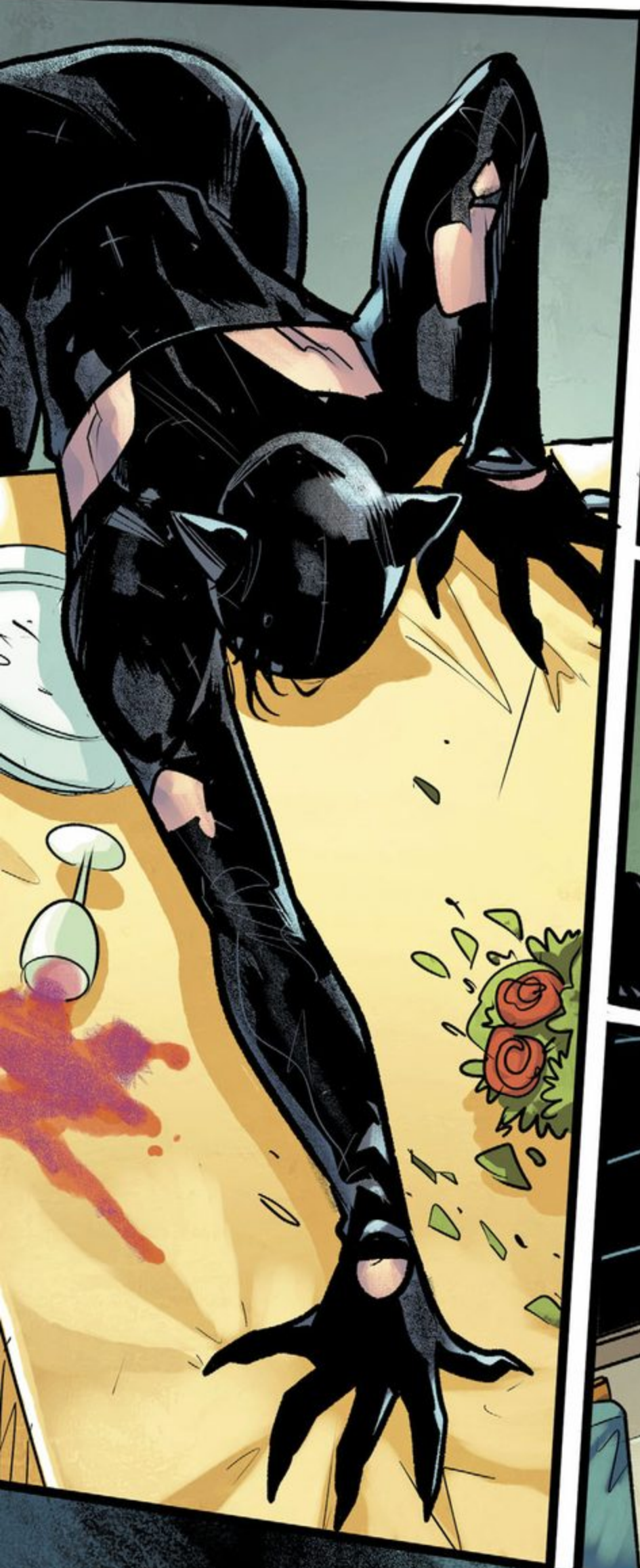


FROM HERE, IN YOUR HIGH CASTLES, YOU HAVE MISTAKENLY PRESUMED...

...THAT YOU SIT AT THE TOP OF THIS FOOD CHAIN.



FROM THIS MOMENT ON, THAT IS NO LONGER TRUE.



"HELLO, CAT."
THAT'S WHAT
HE'D SAY.

"I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
WHY YOU LET
THEM GO.



"YOU SHOULD HAVE
HANDLED THEM IN TO
THE AUTHORITIES."



HE DOESN'T
GET IT.
BATS ARE NOT
TERRITORIAL,
YOU SEE.

BUT CATS...?
THIS IS
YOUR ROOF,
ISN'T IT, BOY?



NOW
THEY
KNOW.

I'M HERE
TO STAY.
THIS IS
MY TOWN.

I DO
MISS HIM
THOUGH.

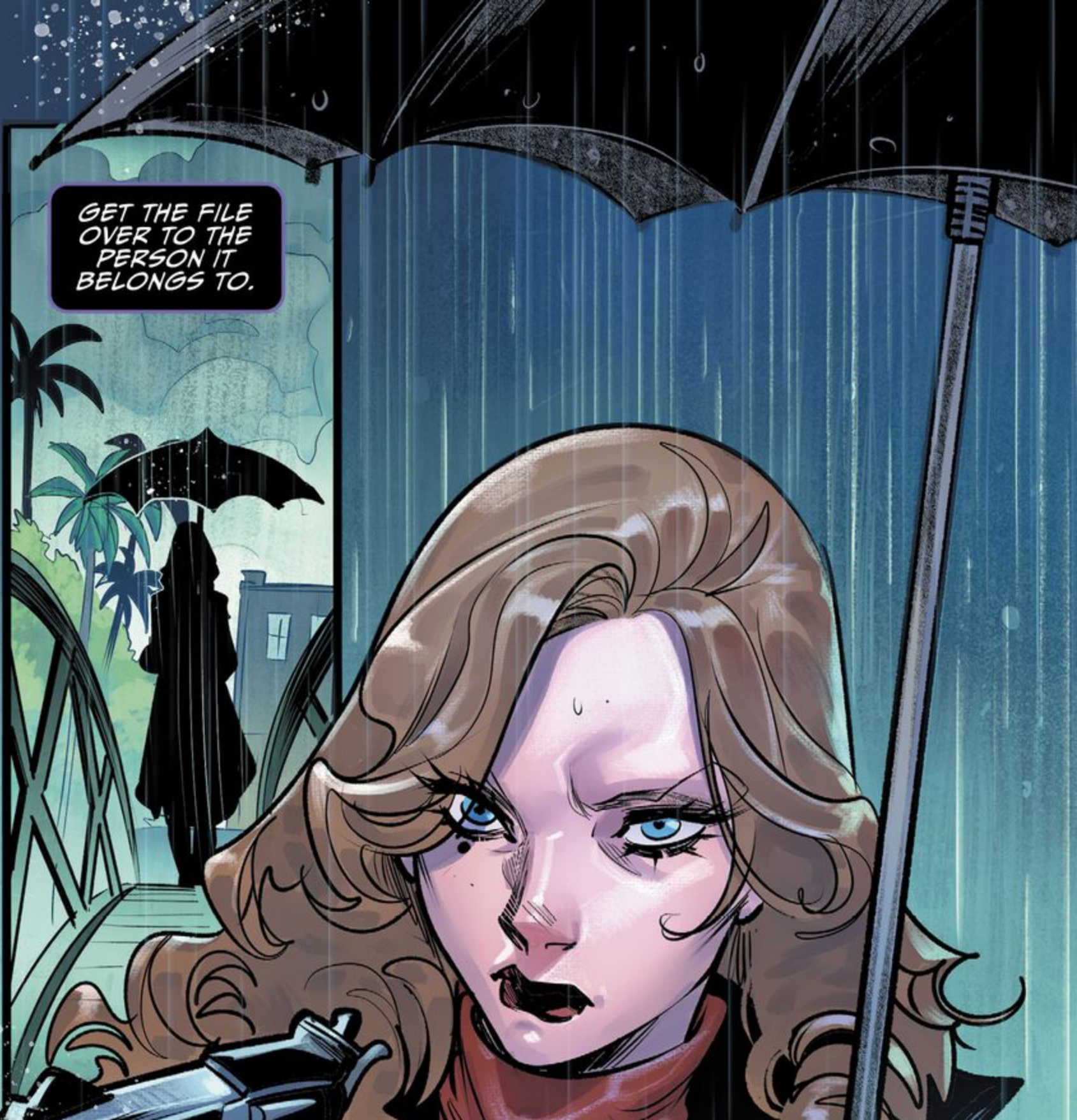
CATS ARE
TERRITORIAL,
AFTER ALL.



Later that night.

NOW THEN...
JUST ONE
LAST THING TO
TAKE CARE OF.

GET THE FILE
OVER TO THE
PERSON IT
BELONGS TO.

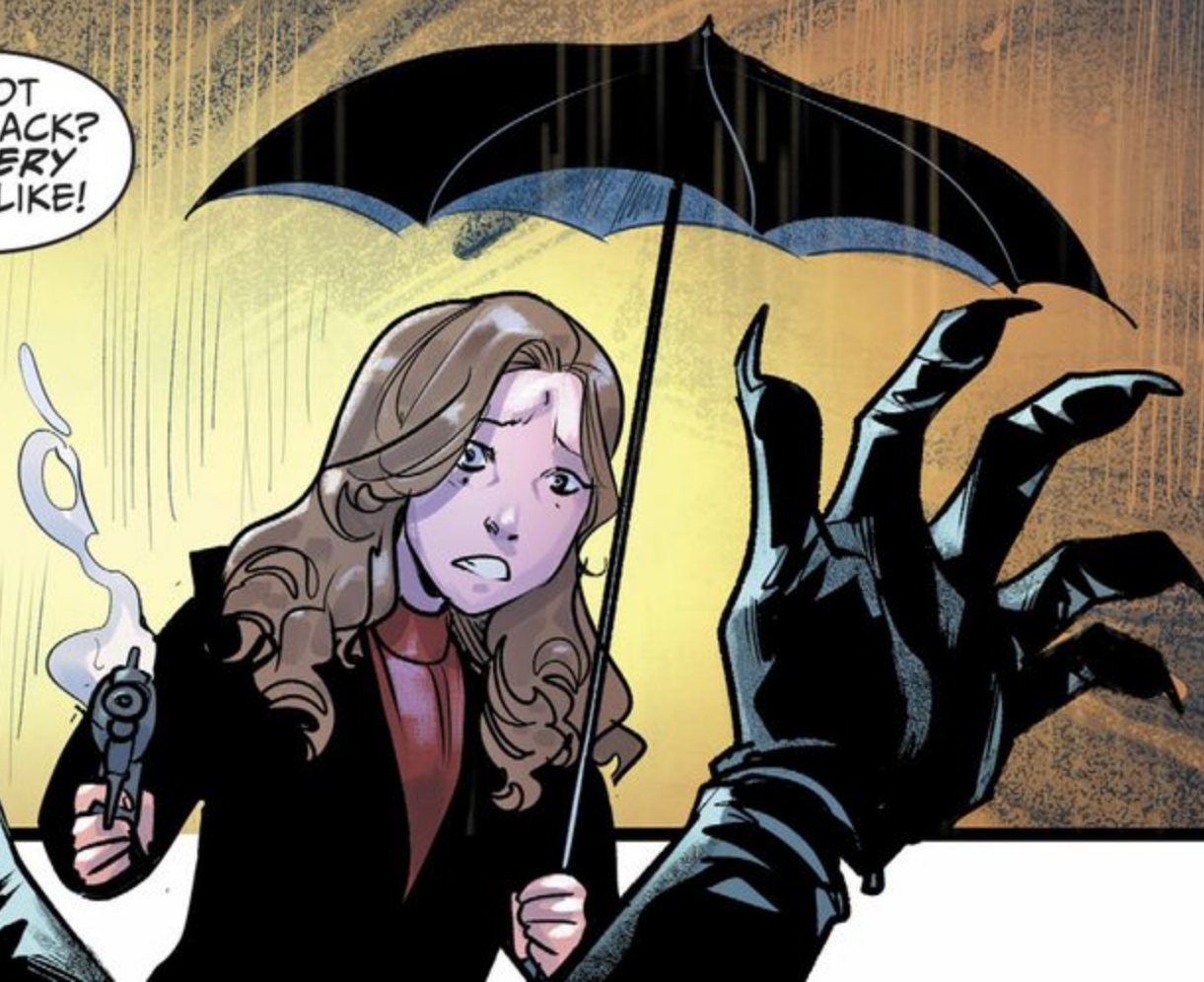


AND I CAN
DISAPPEAR
INTO THE NIGHT.



OH DEAR,
OH DEAR!

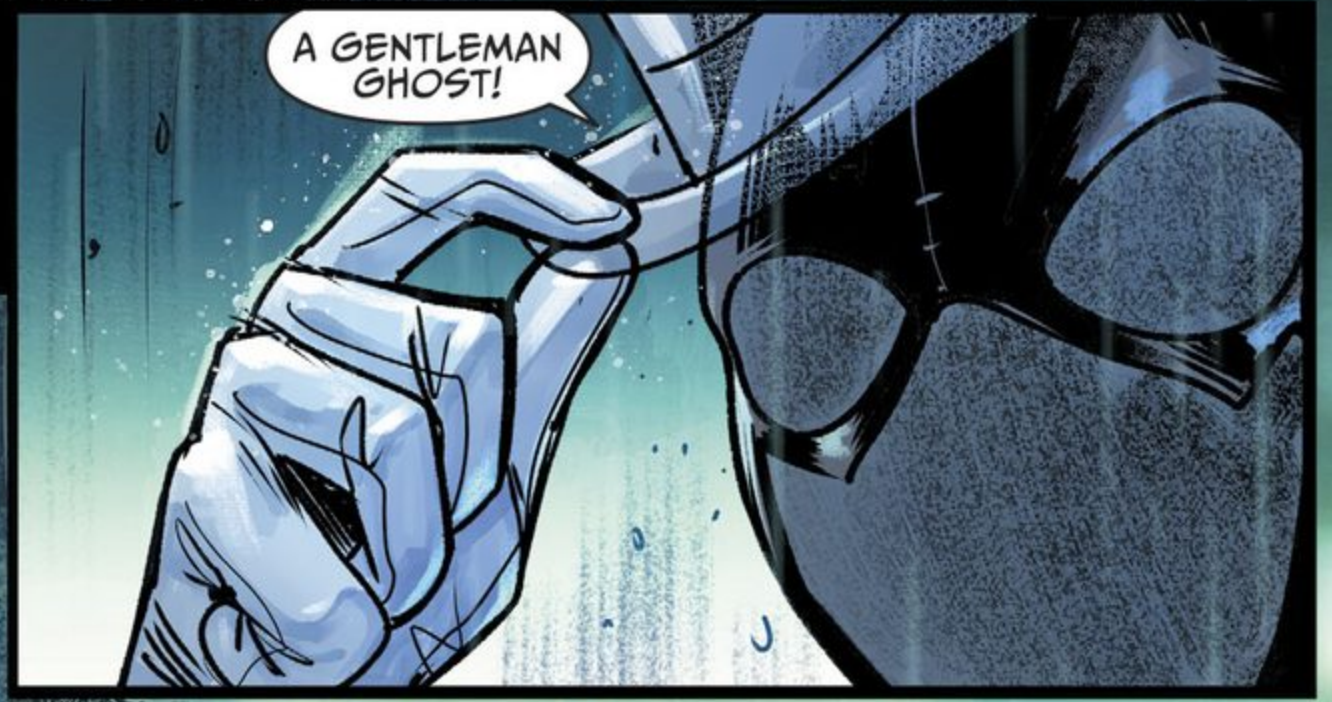
A SHOT
IN THE BACK?
HOW VERY
UNLADYLIKE!





W-WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU?

HE'S JUST A GHOST, MS. RAIN.

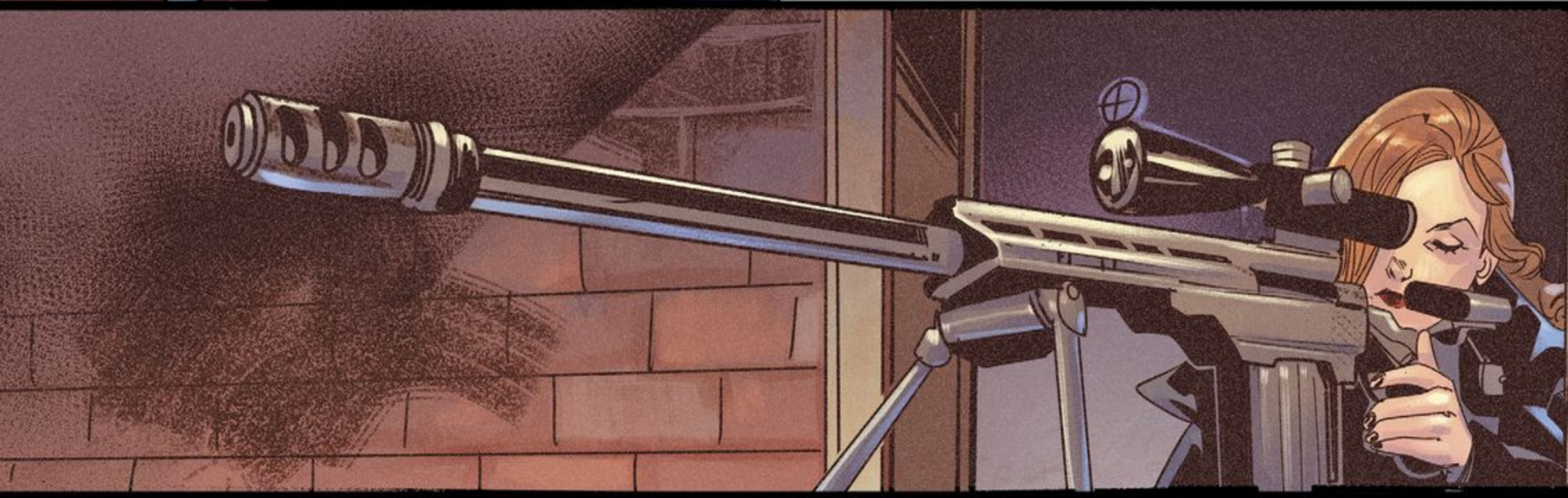


A GENTLEMAN GHOST!



IT WAS YOU, WASN'T IT?

YOU'RE THE SNIPER.



"THE GUN IN THE WINDOW."

"YOU WERE NEVER KAREN RAIN."

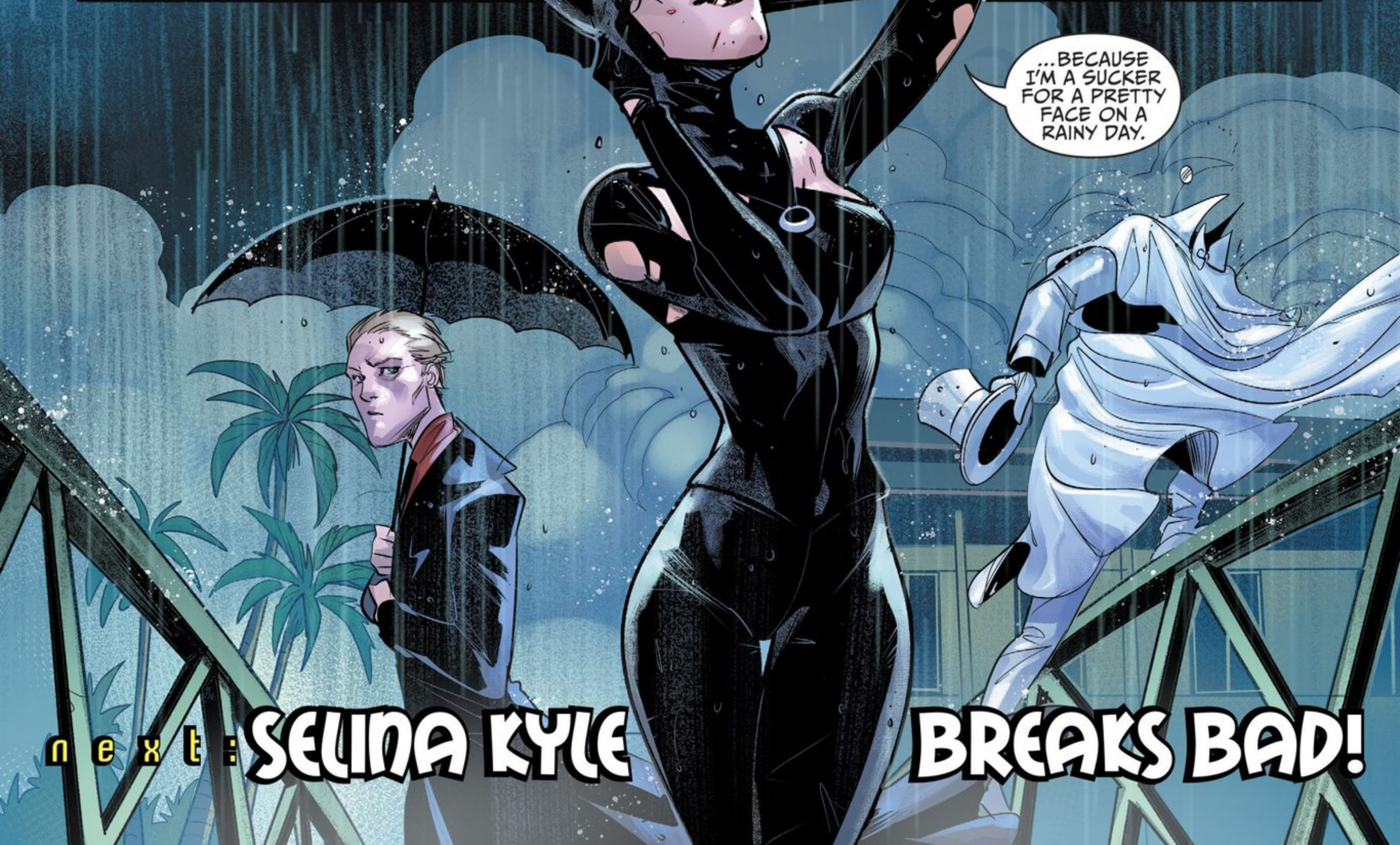
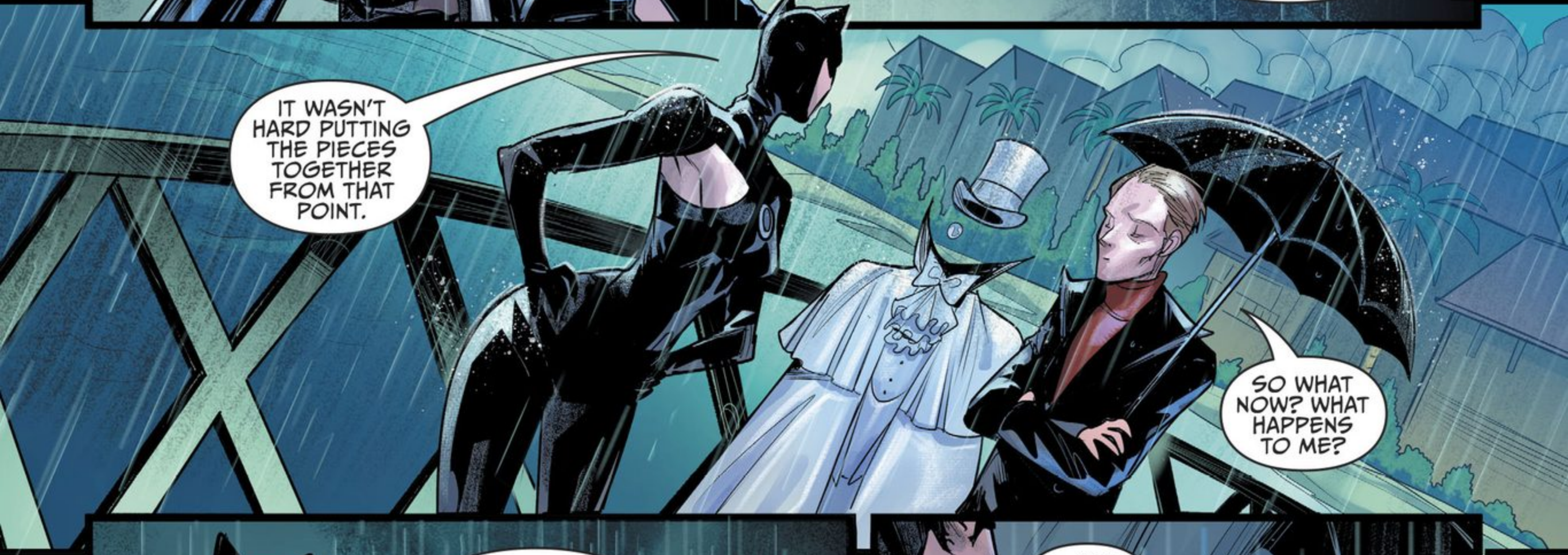


KAREN RAIN IS A 42-YEAR-OLD WOMAN IN SCHENECTADY WHO RUNS A CONVENIENCE STORE AND GOES TO CHURCH ON SUNDAYS.



I AM FALSE FACE. I AM EVERYONE AND NO ONE. AND I HAVE MANY FACES BENEATH THIS ONE.

HOW DID YOU FIGURE IT OUT?



**How can the Dark Knight defeat an enemy...
who knows all his secrets?**

"BEAUTIFUL."

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY, STARRED REVIEW

"STUNNING."

—PORTLAND OREGONIAN

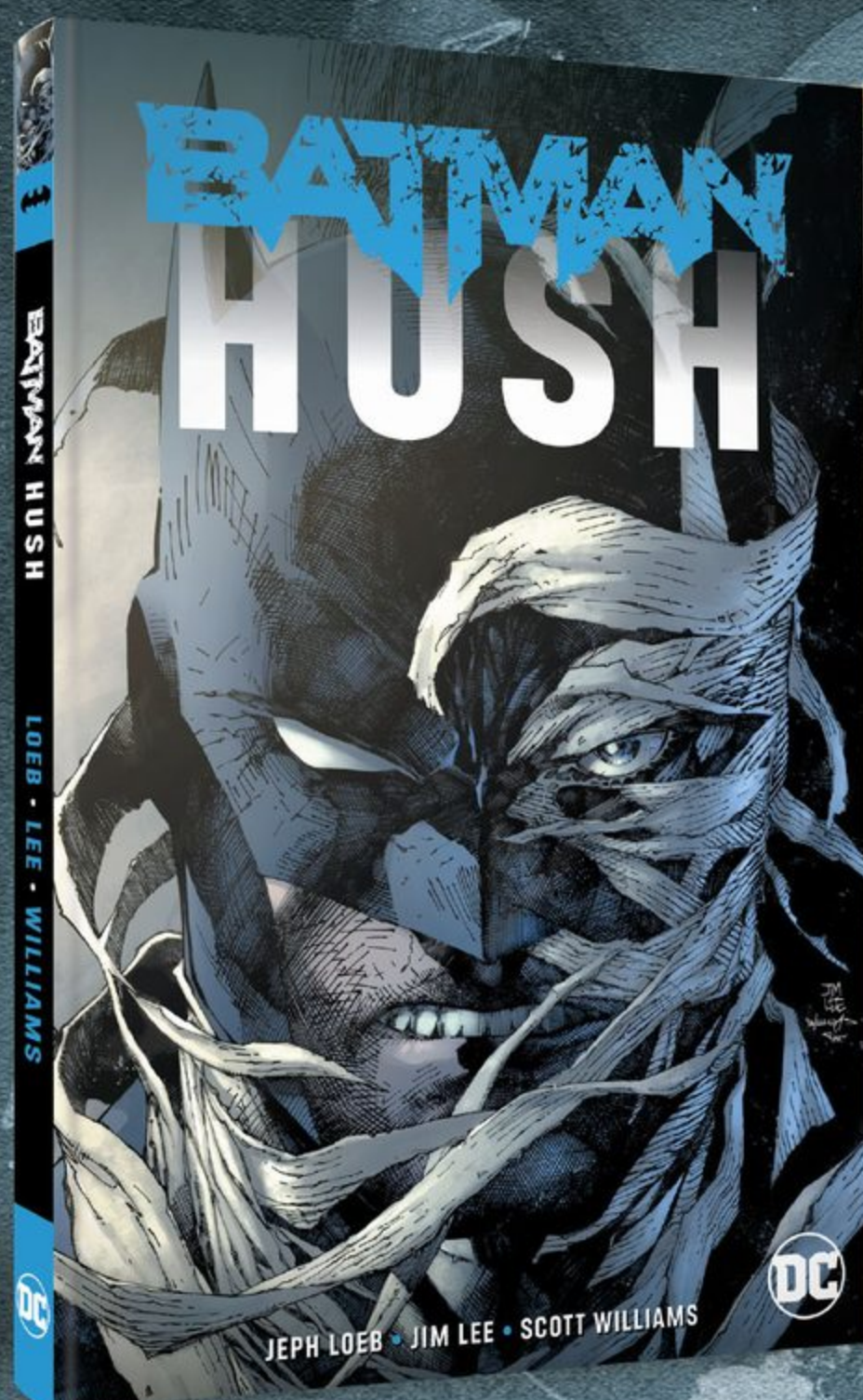
"JIM LEE'S BEST WORK."

—IGN

Written by
JEPH LOEB

Illustrated by
JIM LEE

A new edition of the
classic #1 best-selling
graphic novel



Now a DC Universe animated movie!

DC NATION interview with BATMAN: NIGHTWALKER writers MARIE LU and STUART MOORE

What's compelling to you about Bruce Wayne as an 18-year-old? What aspects are you able to explore that you wouldn't see in a typical Batman story?

Marie Lu: One thing cool about writing a teen Bruce Wayne is that there's so little out there about him at that age. Who were his friends? Did he have crushes? How did he navigate adolescence while being both a billionaire and an orphan? I was excited to play with these questions and explore how Bruce Wayne grew up to become Batman.

Stuart Moore: It's a fascinating time in Bruce's life. He's got all the drive and intelligence he needs to become Batman, but he hasn't figured out what to do with it yet. He's already very used to taking care of himself, but he's not an officer of the law yet, officially or unofficially. And that gets him in trouble.

In writing the adaptation, I looked for moments to show Bruce's intensity. He doesn't have an outlet for that yet either, but he's trying things out. Sometimes he gets very frustrated at other people's rules.

New character Madeleine Wallace is at the center of the story—how did you approach this addition to the Batman mythos?

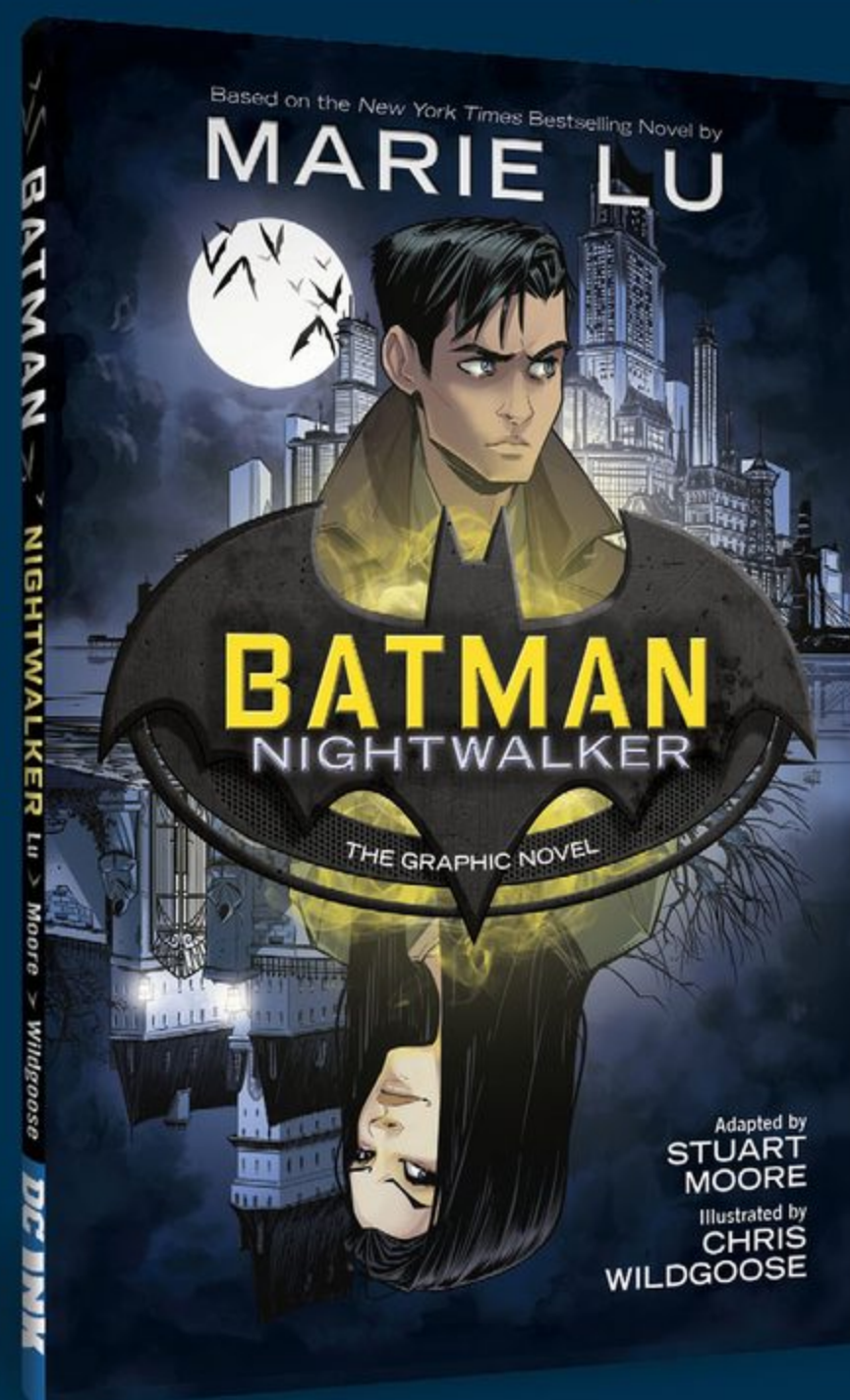
Lu: Batman is defined by his villains, so I knew the best way to explore how Bruce grew up was to give him a villain that pushed him in all the crucial ways. But I wanted Madeleine to be more than just a catalyst for Bruce. She needed to have her own goals, ambitions, and complexities—someone as intricate as many of the other villains in the Batman universe.

Moore: We see Madeleine through Bruce's eyes, and she keeps him guessing...feeding him half-lies, then telling the truth when he doesn't expect it. I tried to be very careful to keep her character balanced. There is a logic to what she does, but she's also conflicted.

Marie, what's it like seeing your novel adapted in this format?

Lu: It was surreal. I see everyone in a certain way in my head, but then to have an artist as talented as Chris Wildgoose bring Bruce, Dianne, and Madeleine to life was like having an out-of-body experience.

**A graphic novel for young adults
On sale September 25**



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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

